

**ABSTRACT**

**BASAL MOUNTING CUSHION FRAME COMPONENT TO FACILITATE EXTRINSIC HEART WALL ACTUATION**

An actuation system for assisting the operation of a natural heart that includes a dome structure configured for being coupled with a ventricular portion of the heart. The dome structure has at least one opening formed therein. The dome structure, proximate the opening, is configured to interface with at least one of an atrial chamber and a great vessel of the heart. A stabilizing element or an actuating element may be anchored to the dome structure for engaging a portion of the heart.